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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventors : Törmälä et al.  
Serial No. : 08/921,533  
Filing Date : September 2, 1997  
For : BIOACTIVE AND BIODEGRADABLE  
COMPOSITES OF POLYMERS AND  
CERAMICS OR GLASSES AND METHOD  
TO MANUFACTURE SUCH COMPOSITES  
Examiner : Lakshmi S. Channavajjala  
Art Unit : 1615

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington D.C. 20231

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the  
United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed  
to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on  
Date: Nov. 14, 2001  
Signature: Paul M. Richter, Jr.  
Paul M. Richter, Jr. (Reg. No. 36,254)

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

SIR:

This Amendment is in response to the Official Action dated May 14, 2001, the time  
for response to which was initially set as August 14, 2001, which date has been extended by  
the concurrent filing of a petition for a three-month extension of time. The extended date for  
response to the Official Action therefore expires on November 14, 2001. In view of the  
following claim amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the  
final rejection of claims 1-22 and issuance of a notice of allowance with regard to each of  
those pending claims. Also filed concurrently herewith is a Notice of Appeal with respect to  
each of the finally rejected claims 1-22 that are pending in this application.